

Message Text

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ORIGIN OC-05

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CCO-00 EUR-12 /018 R

DRAFTED BY OC/P:JAPANCAMO:EUR/SOV:FHMISCH:LK

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O R 312221Z JAN 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

INFO AMCONSUL FRANKFURT

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 023183

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ACOM, UR

SUBJECT: PROCEDURES FOR UNACCOMPANIED DIPLOMATIC MAIL

REF: MOSCOW 1300 (NOTAL), MOSCOW 934 (NOTAL)

FRANKFURT FOR FRDCO

FROM EUR/SOV AND OC

1. DEPT IS PLEASED TO NOTE THE EMBASSY IS ABLE TO SEND OUTGOING AIR POUCHES VIA THIRD COUNTRY CARRIERS, I.E., LUFTHANSA, ALBEIT WITH SOME DIFFICULTY.
2. IN THIS REGARD UNTIL EMBASSY IS PROHIBITED BY SOVIETS FROM USING LUFTHANSA OR PAN AM FOR OUTGOING UNACCOMPANIED POUCHES, DEPT CANNOT AUTHORIZE TRANSMISSION OF MOSCOW'S OUTGOING AIR POUCHES IN CUSTODY OF COURIERS TO VIENNA WHICH WOULD ADD SIGNIFICANT BURDEN TO COURIER LOAD.

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3. EMBASSY SHOULD CONTINUE PRESENT PROCEDURES, REPORT-

ING DEVELOPMENTS TO DEPARTMENT.

4. FYI: SOVIET EMBASSY HAS RECENTLY ASKED FOR DEPARTMENT'S ASSISTANCE WITH DISPATCH OF COURIERS FROM WASHINGTON TO SAN FRANCISCO, INCLUDING PLANE-SIDE DELIVERY OF POUCHES IN SOVIET EMBASSY VEHICLE AND ESCORT TO PLANE BY EMBASSY OFFICER EXEMPTED FROM MAGNETOMET-R CHECK (AND PRESUMABLY ARMED). DEPARTMENT FEELS THAT THROUGH CONTACTS WITH AIRPORT AND AIRLINE REPRESENTATIVES WE WILL BE ABLE TO SATISFY SOVIET DESIRES WITH EXCEPTION OF ARMED ESCORT WHICH IS CONTRARY TO AIRPORT SECURITY REGULATIONS. DEPARTMENT CONSIDERS THAT WE HAVE SUFFICIENT LEVERAGE THROUGH ASSISTANCE OR NON-ASSISTANCE OF SOVIETS AT U.S. AIRPORTS TO RESOLVE MOSCOW AND LENINGRAD POUCH PROBLEMS ON BILATERAL BASIS, NOTWITHSTANDING NEW SOVIET PROCEDURES REPORTED MOSCOW 0934 AND 0935. WE PLAN TO DISCUSS FULL RANGE OF COURIER AND POUCH PROBLEMS WITH SOVIET EMBASSY WEEK OF FEB. 3. END FYI. KISSINGER

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